

## CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. Use of erythropoietin, or a derivative or functional analogue thereof, for the preparation of a medicament for the preventive and/or curative treatment of patients suffering from, or at risk of suffering from cardiac failure.
2. Use according to claim 1, wherein said patients are non-anemic.
3. Method for treating a patient suffering from, or at risk of suffering from cardiac failure, said method comprising a step of administering to said patient erythropoietin, or a derivative or functional analogue thereof.
4. Method according to claim 4, wherein said patient is non-anemic.
5. Use according to claim 1 or 2, or method according to claim 3 or 4, wherein said patients are suffering from or are at risk of suffering from cardiac infarction, coronary artery disease, myocarditis, chemotherapy treatment, alcoholism, cardiomyopathy, hypertension, valvular heart diseases including mitral insufficiency or aortic stenosis, and disorders of the thyroid gland.
6. Use according to claim 1, 2 or 5, or method according to any one of claims 3-5, wherein said erythropoietin, or derivative or functional analogue thereof has been produced in a host cell expressing at least the E1A protein of an adenovirus.
7. Use or method according to claim 6, wherein said host cell is derived from a PER.C6 TM cell.
8. Method of treating a patient suffering from, or at risk of suffering from a chronic and/or acute coronary syndrome, said method comprising a step of administering to said patient

erythropoietin, or a derivative or functional analogue thereof, characterized in that said erythropoietin, or derivative or functional analogue thereof has been produced in a host cell expressing at least the E1A protein of an adenovirus.

9. Method according to claim 8, wherein said host cell is derived from a PER.C6 TM cell.
10. Method according to claim 8 or 9, wherein said patient is non-anemic. 2 0
11. Method according to any one of claims 8-10, wherein said coronary syndrome is selected from the group consisting of myocardial ischemia, myocardial infarction and heart failure.
12. A pharmaceutical preparation comprising erythropoietin, or a functional part, derivative and/or analogue thereof, and one or more compounds selected from the group consisting of statines and Angiotensin Converting Enzyme-inhibitors (ACE-inhibitors).
13. Method for treating a patient suffering from, or at risk of suffering from an acute coronary syndrome, said method comprising a step of administering to said patient erythropoietin, or a derivative or functional analogue thereof, within 24 hours after the onset of said acute coronary syndrome.
14. Method for treating a patient suffering from, or at risk of suffering from undesirable effects of a chronic and/or acute coronary syndrome, said method comprising the steps of administering to said patient erythropoietin, or a functional part, derivative and/or analogue thereof, wherein said undesirable effects are selected from release of purines by the myocardium in the coronary effluent, apoptosis in the myocardium and necrosis in the myocardium.
15. Use of erythropoietin, or a functional part, derivative and/or analogue thereof, for stimulating angiogenesis in heart capillaries.